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## **Laura M. DeSimone**



### **Executive Director, Naval Ordnance Safety and Security Activity Deputy for Weapons Safety, Naval Sea Systems Command**

Ms. Laura M. DeSimone currently serves as Executive Director, Naval Ordnance Safety and Security Activity (NOSSA) and the Deputy for Weapons Safety, Naval Sea Systems Command. In this position, she provides executive, technical, and scientific direction to all ordnance surety programs assigned to NOSSA. Ms. DeSimone is the Department of the Navy (DON) senior authority on all technical, scientific, and engineering methodologies associated with weapon and explosives safety afloat and ashore, and is the primary representative to North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and other domestic and international organizations involved in weapons and explosives safety. The command is comprised of Headquarters Staff at Indian Head, Maryland, and Explosives Safety Support Offices in the two fleet concentration areas of Norfolk, Virginia and San Diego, California.

Ms. DeSimone serves as the Chair of the DoN Weapon Systems Explosives Safety Review Board (WSESRB). The WSESRB is the Navy's independent oversight for safety compliance of all Navy and Marine Corps military munitions, ordnance items, explosive systems, weapon systems, and combat systems.

Ms. DeSimone was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in 2008. She has 18 years of Federal Service. In 2007 she served as Deputy Head, Engagement Systems Department, Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Dahlgren, Virginia where she provided leadership and technical direction for 600 scientists and engineers, and technical and administrative support personnel. In 2005 she was selected as Head, Test and Evaluation Division, NSWC Dahlgren where she provided technical direction and management oversight for all explosive test and evaluation operations performed on an extensive complex of land, air, and water test ranges. From 1990 to 2005 she held a variety of engineering and senior program management positions in development and acquisition of Navy and Marine Corps weapon systems.

Ms. DeSimone has completed assignments in the Naval Surface Fire Support Program Office, Program Executive Office for Surface Strike, Arlington, VA and the Propulsion Department, Naval Air Warfare Center, China Lake, CA.

Ms. DeSimone holds a bachelor's degree in physics from Ursinus College and a master's degree in mechanical engineering from Penn State University. She is a graduate of the Department of Defense Executive Leadership Development Program (2001) and the Federal Executive Institute Leadership in a Democratic Society Program (2007). Ms. DeSimone has been recognized with the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award (2007), the Bernard Smith Award (2005), and the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award (2002).